

30 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA RESOLUTION HONORING RABBI STEPHEN COHEN FOR CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, Rabbi Cohen has been an active community leader in Santa Barbara for three decades, dedicated to building a vibrant Jewish life, and noted for his ability to encourage spiritual exploration, learning, and charitable support for people of all faiths; and

WHEREAS, as Senior Rabbi at Congregation B'nai B'rith, he has created a thriving, energized and diverse teaching community, including adult learning programs; Nurtured a warm, vibrant, and inclusive worship community that welcomes Jews of all backgrounds as well as individuals and families of many faiths; and Inspired individuals to impact the lives of others, both locally and on a global scale; and

WHEREAS, he has participated actively in anti-poverty, hunger, and homelessness initiatives; Led and advocated for interfaith community-building between CBB and other local faith-based organizations; and Served and fundraised for youth and education in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, as Executive Director of UCSB Hillel, he made significant contributions transforming the organization into a dynamic, thriving entity that regularly welcomed over 200 students to Friday night services each week; Rabbi Cohen spearheaded the creation and funding of the Milton Roisman Jewish Student Center in Isla Vista; He led the creation of the Santa Barbara Jewish Festival, which commemorates Israel Independence with a day of music, arts, crafts, food, and celebration; and He and his wife Marian Cohen were cofounders of the Isla Vista Minyan.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors Rabbi Stephen Cohen for 30 years of service to the Santa Barbara Community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2015 by a unanimous vote of all members present.

